



**(S//SI) How Japanese SIGINTers Helped NSA**

FROM: [REDACTED]  
FAD's Asia/Trans-Asia Office (DP15)  
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*Third Party cooperation yielded valuable collection against [REDACTED]*

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(U) From the recent-history book, here's a great example of how NSA's foreign partnerships can translate into success for the United States Cryptologic System (USCS).

(S//SI) For many years, NSA had maintained continuity on [REDACTED] signal [REDACTED]. Collection of the [REDACTED] signal allowed us to identify the transmitting [REDACTED] and to DF\* the user, which provided location, although the text of the communications was unreadable. Many organizations in the Intelligence Community were the beneficiaries of the related intelligence, and especially PACOM\* for its mission [REDACTED] in its area of operations.

(U//FOUO) Ominously, [REDACTED] had been in decline throughout 2002, and eventually disappeared.

(S//SI) At the end of July 2003, Japan's *Directorate for SIGINT* (DFS) notified us of their belief that they had found the replacement signal for [REDACTED]. The next month, representatives from NSA Headquarters and KRSOC\* quickly visited the DFS to confirm the find. The signal was confirmed as the successor to [REDACTED] and NSA switched into high gear to get a collection capability developed and deployed.

(S//SI) We're now able to recognize, collect, demodulate and decode the signal, as we could the [REDACTED] signal. While the underlying text remains enciphered and unreadable, as was [REDACTED] we're able to distinguish valid messages from practice/test messages through traffic analysis of message externals. Also, we're once again able to identify the [REDACTED] and we're enjoying greater success in DF-ing the transmitter.

(S//SI) In honor of DFS's discovery, NSA deferred to DFS in the naming of the new signal. The signal's cover name is [REDACTED].

(S//SI) This event highlights the benefits reaped by the USCS and the Intelligence Community through NSA's SIGINT partnerships. The DFS discovery and subsequent NSA-DFS collaboration have allowed us to continue to provide the Intelligence Community, and particularly PACOM, with intelligence related to a [REDACTED], thereby ensuring security in the Pacific Theater.

(S//SI) To date, NSA has continued a robust technical exchange with the DFS on [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(U) [REDACTED]

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\*(U) Notes:

DF = Direction-Find(ing)

PACOM = U.S. Pacific Command

KRSOC = Kunia Regional SIGINT Operations Center

(U//FOUO) This article is reprinted from March's *Foreign Affairs Digest* (originally entitled "NSA + Foreign Partners = Success")

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